also use of weedicides to control the weed menace to crops;

(g) More emphasis on the proper adoption of non-monetary inputs like timely sowing, maintaining optimum plant population, efficient use of fertiliser and need based plant protection measures; and

(h) Extension education efforts will be strengthened to make farmers more receptive to new technology.

For achieving these targets of foodgrains production, the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes in different States of the country including Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, such as Integrated Cereals Development Programme Rice in Eastern Madhya Pradesh; Coarse Cereals in other parts of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra; and Wheat in Western Uttar Pradesh, including Bundelkhand region. In addition, National Pulses Development Project is being implemented for the development of Pulses in the States of M.P., Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh besides other States.

Aid Received from Italy

*13. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the aid received from Italy during the last two years especially in Social Sector; and

(b) the measures taken to establish a stable long term relationship with Italy?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) A statement listing ongoing bilateral projects in which Italian assistance has received during the last two years, is enclosed. (*See* below)

(b) India and Italy have taken concrete measures to strengthen

political dialogue and economic relations. The two countries have institutionalised periodic political consultations as well as economic and trade cooperation through a Joint Economic Commission. EAM's visit to Rome on 11th and 12th January 2000 has resulted in an enhanced understanding of India's concerns including developments in the neighbourhood, cross-border and international terrorism, drug trafficking, disarmament and security related issues.

Statement

Ongoing bilateral projects in which Italian assistance has been received

Project detail	
1. High-Tech Vocational Training Centre, Delhi 2. Centre for Treatment of Spinal Injuries, New Delhi 3. Health Unit at Delek Hospital, Dharamsala 4. Educational Audio-Visual cum Training Centre, Calcutta	The exact amount of aid received for the projects during the last two years cannot be quantified as these are technical cooperation grant projects, funds for which do not pass through the Government of India's Budget.

Demand of Hijackers and role Played by Taliban Government

*14. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of official deputed at Kandahar for negotiating with the hijackers of I.A.C. flight No. 814;